

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

Serial Number: 10/042924

Filing Date: January 9, 2002

Title: P-CHANNEL DYNAMIC FLASH MEMORY CELLS WITH ULTRATHIN TUNNEL OXIDES

Page 2

Dkt: 303.684US2

IN THE CLAIMS

~~Please amend the claims as follows:~~

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising: forming an enhancement mode p-channel memory cell, including:

forming an oxide layer of less than 40 Angstroms (\AA) on and contacting a substrate and contacting a source region, a drain region, and a channel region, the having a channel region separating a the source and a the drain region in the substrate;

forming a floating gate on and contacting the oxide layer;

forming a dielectric layer on the floating gate; and

forming a control gate on the dielectric layer, wherein the enhancement mode p-channel memory cell is adapted to erase using a potential of magnitude of about 3 V or less applied to the floating gate.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein forming the oxide layer includes forming the oxide layer to have a thickness of 23 Angstroms (\AA).

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein forming the floating gate includes forming a floating gate which is adapted to hold a charge on the order of 10^{-17} Coulombs for longer than 10 hours at 20 degrees Celsius.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein forming the floating gate includes forming a floating gate which is adapted to hold a charge of the order of 10^{-17} Coulombs for at least 1.0 second at 85 degrees Celsius.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein forming the floating gate includes forming a floating gate which has a bottom surface area in contact with the oxide layer of approximately 10^{-10} cm^2 .

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

Serial Number: 10/042924

Filing Date: January 9, 2002

Title: P-CHANNEL DYNAMIC FLASH MEMORY CELLS WITH ULTRATHIN TUNNEL OXIDES

Page 3

Dkt: 303.684US2

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein forming the p-channel memory cell includes forming the p-channel memory cell to operate at a voltage of approximately 1.0 Volts applied to the control gate.

7.-20. Cancelled.

DI
Cont.
7.
21. (Currently Amended) A method comprising: forming an enhancement mode p-channel transistor, including:

forming an oxide layer of approximately 23 Angstroms (Å) on and contacting a substrate and contacting a source region, a drain region, and a channel region, ~~the having a channel region~~ separating a the source and a the drain region in the substrate;

forming a floating gate on and contacting the oxide layer

forming a dielectric layer on the floating gate; and

forming a control gate on the dielectric layer, wherein forming the enhancement mode p-channel transistor includes forming the enhancement mode p-channel transistor to have an operating voltage of less than 2.5 Volts across the oxide layer.

8. ~~22.~~ 7 (Original) The method of claim ~~21~~ 7, wherein forming a floating gate on the oxide layer includes forming a p-type polysilicon floating gate.

9. ~~23.~~ 7 (Original) The method of claim ~~21~~ 7, wherein forming a floating gate on the oxide layer includes forming a p-type polysilicon-germanium floating gate.

10. ~~24.~~ (Currently Amended) A method comprising: forming an enhancement mode p-channel memory cell, including:

forming an oxide layer of less than 40 Angstroms (Å) on and contacting a substrate and contacting a source region, a drain region, and a channel region, the having a channel region separating a the source and a the drain region in the substrate;

forming a floating gate on and contacting the oxide layer;

forming a dielectric layer on the floating gate; and

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

Serial Number: 10/042924

Filing Date: January 9, 2002

Title: P-CHANNEL DYNAMIC FLASH MEMORY CELLS WITH ULTRATHIN TUNNEL OXIDES

Page 4

Dkt 303.684US2

forming a control gate on the dielectric layer, wherein forming the enhancement mode p-channel includes forming the enhancement mode p-channel adapted to have a reliability of an number of cycles of performance of approximately 10^{15} cycles over a lifetime of the enhancement mode p-channel memory cell and forming the enhancement mode p-channel transistor to have an operating voltage of less than 2.5 Volts across the oxide layer.

DI
CONT.
~~11.~~ ¹⁰ ~~25.~~ (Original) The method of claim ~~24~~, wherein forming a dielectric layer on the floating gate includes forming a layer of silicon dioxide.

~~12.~~ ¹⁰ ~~26.~~ (Original) The method of claim ~~24~~, wherein forming a dielectric layer on the floating gate includes forming a layer of silicon nitride.

~~13.~~ ¹⁰ ~~27.~~ (Currently Amended) A method comprising: forming an enhancement mode p-channel memory cell, including:

forming an oxide layer of less than 40 Angstroms (Å) on and contacting a substrate and contacting a source region, a drain region, and a channel region, the having a channel region separating a the source and a the drain region in the substrate;

forming a floating gate on and contacting the oxide layer;

forming a dielectric layer on the floating gate; and

forming a control gate on the dielectric layer, wherein forming the enhancement mode p-channel includes forming the enhancement mode p-channel adapted to have a reliability of an number of cycles of performance of approximately 10^{12} cycles over a lifetime of the enhancement mode p-channel memory cell and forming the enhancement mode p-channel transistor to have an operating voltage of less than 2.5 Volts across the oxide layer.

~~14.~~ ¹³ ~~28.~~ (Original) The method of claim ~~27~~, wherein forming a floating gate on the oxide layer includes forming a heavily doped n-type polysilicon floating gate.

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

Serial Number: 10/042924

Filing Date: January 9, 2002

Title: P-CHANNEL DYNAMIC FLASH MEMORY CELLS WITH ULTRATHIN TUNNEL OXIDES

Page 5

Dkt: 303.684US2

15. ~~29.~~ (Original) The method of ~~27~~¹³, wherein forming a floating gate on the oxide layer includes forming a floating gate which has a bottom surface area in contact with the oxide layer of approximately 10^{-10} cm².

16. ~~30.~~ (Currently Amended) A method comprising: forming an enhancement mode p-channel memory cell, including:

forming an oxide layer of about 30 Angstroms (Å) on and contacting a substrate and contacting a source region, a drain region, and a channel region, the having a channel region separating a the source and a the drain region in the substrate;

forming a floating gate on and contacting the oxide layer;

forming a dielectric layer on the floating gate; and

forming a control gate on the dielectric layer, wherein forming the enhancement mode p-channel transistor includes forming the enhancement mode p-channel transistor to have an operating voltage of about 3.0 Volts across the oxide layer.

17. ~~31.~~ (Original) The method of ~~30~~¹⁶, wherein forming a floating gate on the oxide layer includes forming a floating gate which has a bottom surface area in contact with the oxide layer of approximately 10^{-10} cm².

18. ~~32.~~ (Original) The method of claim ~~30~~¹⁶, wherein forming a floating gate on the oxide layer includes forming a floating gate which is adapted to hold a charge on the order of 10^{-17} Coulombs for longer than 1.0 hour at 20 degrees Celsius.

19. ~~33.~~ (Currently Amended) A method comprising: forming a memory device, including: forming a plurality of memory cells, wherein forming the plurality of memory cells includes forming at least one p-channel memory cell, and wherein forming at least one p-channel memory cell includes:

forming an oxide layer of about 23 Angstroms (Å) on and contacting a substrate and contacting a source region, a drain region, and a channel region, the having a channel region separating a the source and a the drain region in the substrate;

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

Serial Number: 10/042924

Filing Date: January 9, 2002

Title: P-CHANNEL DYNAMIC FLASH MEMORY CELLS WITH ULTRATHIN TUNNEL OXIDES

Page 6

Dkt: 303.684US2

forming a floating gate on and contacting the oxide layer

forming a dielectric layer on the floating gate; and

forming a control gate on the dielectric layer, wherein forming the enhancement mode p-channel transistor includes forming the enhancement mode p-channel transistor to have an operating voltage of approximately 1.0 Volts applied to the control gate; and

forming at least one sense amplifier, wherein forming at least one sense amplifier includes coupling the at least one amplifier to the plurality of memory cells.

20.

~~34.~~ (Original) The method of claim ~~33~~, wherein forming a floating gate on the oxide layer includes forming a floating gate which is adapted to hold a charge on the order of 10^{-17} Coulombs for longer than 1.0 hour at 20 degrees Celsius.

21.

~~35.~~ (Original) The method of claim ~~33~~, wherein forming a floating gate on the oxide layer includes forming a floating gate which is adapted to hold a charge on the order of 10^{-17} Coulombs for at least one second at 85 degrees Celsius.

22.

~~36.~~ (Currently Amended) A method comprising: forming an enhancement mode p-channel transistor, including:

forming an oxide layer of less than 40 Angstroms (\AA) on and contacting a substrate and contacting a source region, a drain region, and a channel region, the having a channel region separating a the source and a the drain region in the substrate;

forming a floating gate on and contacting the oxide layer, wherein forming the floating gate includes forming a floating gate which is adapted to hold a charge on the order of 10^{-7} 10^{-17} Coulombs for longer than 1.0 hour at 20 degrees Celsius;

forming a dielectric layer on the floating gate, the dielectric layer including silicon dioxide; and

forming a control gate on the dielectric layer.

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

Serial Number: 10/042924

Filing Date: January 9, 2002

Title: P-CHANNEL DYNAMIC FLASH MEMORY CELLS WITH ULTRATHIN TUNNEL OXIDES

Page 7

Dkt: 303.684US2

23. ~~37.~~ (Previously Presented) The method of claim ~~36~~, wherein forming an oxide layer of less than 50 Angstroms (Å) includes forming the oxide layer to have a thickness of 23 Angstroms (Å).

24. ~~38.~~ (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~36~~, wherein forming the floating gate further includes forming a floating gate which is adapted to hold a charge on the order of 10^{-7} 10^{-17} Coulombs for at least 1.0 second at 85 degrees Celsius.

25. ~~39.~~ (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~36~~, wherein forming the p-channel transistor further includes forming an intergate dielectric on the floating gate and forming a control gate on the intergate dielectric the source region as a p+ source region.

26. ~~40.~~ (Previously Presented) The method of claim ~~36~~, wherein forming the p-channel transistor includes forming the p-channel transistor to have an operating voltage of less than 2.5 Volts across the oxide layer.

27. ~~41.~~ (Currently Amended) A method comprising: forming a memory device, including: forming a plurality of memory cells, wherein forming the plurality of memory cells includes forming at least one p-channel memory cell, and wherein forming at least one p-channel memory cell includes:

forming an oxide layer of less than 40 Angstroms (Å) on and contacting a substrate and contacting a source region, a drain region, and a channel region, the having a channel region separating a the source and a the drain region in the substrate; and

forming a floating gate on and contacting the oxide layer, wherein forming the floating gate includes forming a floating gate which is adapted to hold a charge on the order of 10^{-17} Coulombs for longer than 1.0 hour at 20 degrees Celsius.;

forming a dielectric layer on the floating gate; and

forming a control gate on the dielectric layer; and

forming at least one sense amplifier, wherein forming at least one sense amplifier includes coupling the at least one amplifier to the plurality of memory cells.

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

Serial Number: 10/042924

Filing Date: January 9, 2002

Title: P-CHANNEL DYNAMIC FLASH MEMORY CELLS WITH ULTRATHIN TUNNEL OXIDES

Page 8

Dkt: 303.684US2

28. ~~42.~~ (Previously Presented) The method of claim ~~41~~, wherein forming an oxide layer of less than 50 Angstroms (Å) includes forming the oxide layer to have a thickness of 23 Angstroms (Å).

29. ~~43.~~ (Previously Presented) The method of claim ~~41~~, wherein forming the floating gate further includes forming a floating gate which is adapted to hold a charge on the order of 10^{-17} Coulombs for at least 1.0 second at 85 degrees Celsius.

DI cont. 30. ~~44.~~ (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~41~~, wherein forming the p-channel transistor further includes ~~an intergate dielectric on the floating gate and forming a control gate on the intergate dielectric~~ the source region as a p+ source region.

31. ~~45.~~ (Previously Presented) The method of claim ~~44~~, wherein forming the p-channel transistor further includes forming the p-channel transistor to have an operating voltage of approximately 1.0 Volt on the control gate.

32. ~~46.~~ (Previously Presented) The method of claim ~~41~~, wherein forming the p-channel transistor includes forming the p-channel transistor to have an operating voltage of less than 2.5 Volts across the oxide layer.

33. ~~47.~~ (Currently Amended) A method comprising: forming an enhancement mode p-channel transistor, including:

forming an oxide layer of approximately 23 Angstroms (Å) on and contacting a substrate and ~~contacting a source region, a drain region, and a channel region, the having a channel region~~ separating a the source and a the drain region in the substrate; and

forming a floating gate on and contacting the oxide layer, wherein forming the floating gate includes forming a floating gate which is adapted to hold a charge on the order of 10^{-17} Coulombs for at least one second at 85 degrees Celsius;

forming a dielectric layer on the floating gate; and

forming a control gate on the dielectric layer.

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

Serial Number: 10/042924

Filing Date: January 9, 2002

Title: P-CHANNEL DYNAMIC FLASH MEMORY CELLS WITH ULTRATHIN TUNNEL OXIDES

Page 9

Dkt: 303.684US2

34.

~~48.~~ (Previously Presented) The method of claim ~~47~~, further including forming a heavily doped p-type source region and a heavily doped p-type drain region.

33

35.

~~49.~~ (Previously Presented) The method of claim ~~48~~, wherein forming a heavily doped p-type source region and a heavily doped p-type drain region includes forming the heavily doped p-type source region and the heavily doped p-type drain region in a n-type well.

34

DI